

F.F.F.

6899

October 1, 1940

My dear Mrs. Rockne:

I send hearty greetings to you on what I know will be an occasion of proud and tender import. It gives me very great pleasure to join with those who are honoring Knute Rockne in the place so dear to him and where his memory is held in perpetual benediction. #

x 1172329

We are grateful for the life he lived, for the influence which he wielded on the youth of the land and for the memory which he has left as a heritage to all of us. With his sportsmanship was inseparable from strict honor and integrity.

We can draw deep inspiration from the ideals which he exemplified in his life and work and from those ideals gather wisdom for our guidance in this anxious hour when the national defense has become the paramount national concern. Our need today is for men strong in body, strong in soul and strong in faith in the democratic way of life. In brief, for men who hold to the ideals which Knute Rockne held.

I salute the memory of a great figure in our American life.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Knute Rockne,
South Bend,
Indiana.

wch-mw

MRS. BONSTEEL:

~~This is all of this file.~~ The letter was not changed today. An error was made in the copy telegraphed to FDR, Jr. but these copies are correct.

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TELEGRAM

The White House Washington

October 1, 1940

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., xPP75
Democratic National Committee Headquarters,
Hotel Biltmore,
New York, N. Y.

The original of the following letter addressed to Mrs. Rockne and signed by the President has been sent air mail special delivery to you at Stevens Hotel, Chicago:

"My dear Mrs. Rockne:

"I send hearty greetings to you on what I know will be an occasion of proud and tender import. It gives me very great pleasure to join with those who are honoring Knute Rockne in the place so dear to him and where his memory is held in perpetual benediction.

"We are grateful for the life he lived, for the influence which he wielded on the youth of the land and for the memory which he has left as a heritage to all of us. With him sportsmanship was inseparable from strict honor and integrity.

"We can draw deep inspiration from the ideals which he exemplified in his life and work and from those ideals gather wisdom for our guidance in this anxious hour when the national defense has become the paramount national concern. Our need today is for men strong in body, strong in soul and strong in faith in the democratic way of life. In brief, for men who hold to the ideals which Knute Rockne held.

"I salute the memory of a great figure in our American life."

"Very sincerely yours,

"FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

"Mrs. Knute Rockne,
South Bend,
Indiana."

WILLIAM D. HASSETT

HURLEY, F. J.
Chicago, Ill.
Oct. 7, 1940

Writes President he hopes he is re-elected and gives some suggestions for fireside chats. Requests copy of letter President wrote to Mrs. Knute Rockne and which F. D. Roosevelt, Jr., read over radio last Sunday night.

See - 2526-H

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O'DONNELL, Reverend Hugh, C.S.C.
President, University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Indiana
October 9, 1940

Wrote to the President thanking him for sending the beautiful letter and his son, Franklin Delano Junior, to the banquet commemorating the premiere of "Knute Rockne -- All American." -- The President replied on Oct. 15, 1940, thanking Rev. O'Donnell for the letter and words of praise. Reciprocates the warm personal sentiments.

SEE - P.P.F. 2814

P. P. F.

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